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# the CHRONICLE



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The Newspaper of the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

June 1990

## Traffic Accident Investigation

**Officers offered expanded, in-depth courses**

The complexities of investigating traffic related deaths and accidents frequently force law enforcement officials to seek better and more economical means for training their staff.

One efficient way is being offered by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy through its recently developed series of Accident Investigations courses for the law enforcement officers. According to Instructor Pete Langehans, a principal developer of the training, the concept for the courses is similar in type and quality to programs offered by IPTM, Northwestern University, and others.

Funded in part through a grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety Programs, the new traffic accident curriculum provides the best, up-to-date material for law enforcement officers while being offered at a fraction of the cost of institutions in other states. Langehans said that officers now will be able to remain at or close to home and receive the same high-quality instruction.

Ultimately, the courses will be offered in three parts, Langehans said. Part One, known as "At the Scene Investigations," currently is underway

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STATE DOCUMENTS

## Village finds new home on the range

Four small buildings used in practical problems instruction have been moved off the academy's driving range onto adjacent property, allowing range staff to conduct driving and practical problems instruction simultaneously.

Gordon Garner, the academy's range coordinator, said that moving the buildings was necessary. "Every time we wanted to use the driving range, we couldn't instruct practical problems and vice versa," he said.

Garner said the final building move was completed around the first of the year and was handled during a weekend by a private contractor. The only remaining problem was for electricity and water hookups, which now also have been completed.

The new site is now referred to as the "Practical Problems Village" and is about a hundred yards from its

previous location on the straightaway part of the driving range.

Garner said the buildings are utilized by both basic training classes and various law enforcement agency in-service classes. Topics taught in the buildings include:

**Green Building:** Simulated crime scenes for various detective classes.

**Brown Building:** Simulated nightclub/crime scene area.

**Gray Building:** Simulated convenience store/bank robbery scenes.

**Yellow Building:** Simulated domestic violence scenes.

Garner said the yellow building used for domestic training is equipped with a closed circuit television and video tape system in order for officers to view their training progress.



## **"Cutting Edge" hones CJA students**

**RICK JOHNSON**  
*Executive Director*



"The Cutting Edge" is the new terminology that describes people and organizations in the forefront of determining the shape of the future. I'm proud to say that our academy certainly has attained that status, and the men and women who work here are to be commended.

As noted in the news media over the past several months, it is the academy that has stepped forward in a variety of ways to help bring an even higher degree of professionalism to South Carolina. As an example, joining with the staff of the state's technical colleges, our academy is providing police officers and auxiliary constables

up-to-date law enforcement training. But that is just the beginning.

The academy's role may include many other partnerships during the next decade, as we strive to bring more and better training for our law enforcement officers. Yet, at the same time, we will never lose sight of our initial mission--to provide quality basic training for our law enforcement officers statewide.

Nevertheless, our academy should be the cutting edge in police training, because the real winners are those who lay their lives on the line every time they go to work.

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at the academy and various other locales around the state. For the traffic safety officer, courses on Basic Accident Investigations, DUI/DUID Basic, Chemical Testing, First Responder, Traffic Law/Traffic Court, Sobriety/Roadside Check Points, Traffic Photography, and Traffic Engineering are offered in this phase of instruction.

Part Two is referred to as "Technical Investigations" and will take effect in January, 1991. Courses for the accident reconstruction officer will be offered in this phase of instruction on Basic Accident Investigator, Advanced Traffic Investigator, Accident Reconstruction 1 and 2, Hazardous Material Enforcement, Defensive Driving, and Traffic Photography. Additionally, Part Two also will consist

of a mixture of Part One courses as well.

Langehans said that a Part Three series is slated to begin in July, 1991, featuring advanced courses to include accident reconstruction.

Langehans said the courses being offered by the academy are tailored somewhat to South Carolina's needs and are based on requests made to the academy or the Governor's Office of Highway Safety Programs. He said the courses will be offered at technical colleges and law enforcement agencies around the state.

"If an officer came to this, he would get all he needs and would not have to go out of state to get the training," Langehans said.

Langehans said a total of five instructors will be providing the training, including three trained instructors in accident investigations and two instructors in support courses, such as hazardous material.

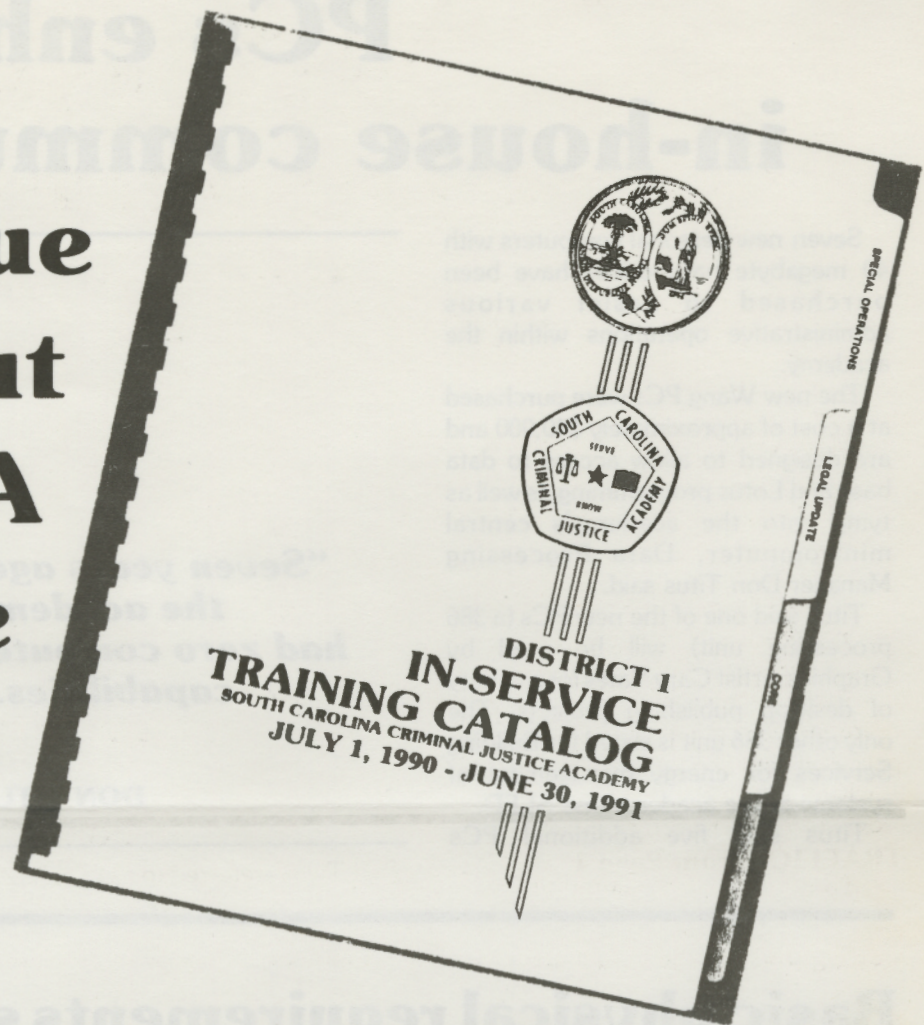
### **THE CHRONICLE**

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# Catalogue spells out CJA in-service courses



Catalogues detailing in-service courses offered by the S. C. Criminal Justice Academy have been distributed to law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

Spears Westbrook, the academy's coordinator for in-service training, said the catalogues should now be in the hands of sheriffs, police chiefs, or training officers at all law enforcement agencies in the state below the federal level. The catalogues provide a listing of all training courses offered by the academy, with the exception of the eight-week basic training for all officers and some specialized programs.

Westbrook said the catalogues cover

all aspects of in-service training required by the S. C. Training Act, including legal updates, cores, advanced, and range courses. Further, the catalogues offer detailed instructions for registration procedures as well as proficiency and credits requirements. The catalogues also provide complete listings of training sites, calendars, and course descriptions.

"By the time this information is published, all requests for slots in the various courses should have been sent in to the academy," Westbrook said. "If a particular agency has not notified the academy, someone needs to do so quickly."

Westbrook said this is the first time the academy has published an annual catalogue with course descriptions. Prior to this, all course announcements were done by brochures or letters. He said that there has been a good return on the catalogues, with numerous requests for training slots. The requests are based on information supplied to the various law enforcement agencies through the catalogue, including descriptions of new, advanced, or updated courses, pre-requisites, and other requirements.

The catalogues cover training periods from July 1, 1990 through June 30, 1991.



# PCs enhance CJA in-house communications

Seven new personal computers with 40 megabyte hard drives have been purchased to assist various administrative operations within the academy.

The new Wang PCs were purchased at a cost of approximately \$40,000 and are designed to allow access to data base and Lotus programming as well as tying into the academy's central minicomputer, Data Processing Manager Don Titus said.

Titus said one of the new PCs (a 386 processing unit) will be used by Graphics Artist Cary Yates for a variety of desktop publishing projects. The only other 386 unit is slated for Building Services for energy management of systems at the academy and SLED.

Titus said five additional PCs

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***"Seven years ago,  
the academy  
had zero computer  
capabilities."***

**DON TITUS**

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(referred to as 286 processing units) are being installed for each of the academy's division directors in order to provide more efficient use of inventory, certification, and office-oriented requirements.

"Seven years ago, the academy had zero computer capabilities. But now, with the addition of these seven new PCs, we now have a minicomputer with 47 terminals plus a special Unisys PC utilized only by Academy Finance Director Henry Wengrow and the Accounting Department," Titus said.

Titus also said that the seven new PCs will also consist of accompanying printers. The 386 processing units will have special laser printers, while the remaining five will be supplied with dot matrix printers.

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## Basic physical requirements studied, adjusted

Requirements for physical standards for all basic training students were adjusted at the academy recently to reflect a fairer evaluation of officer performance.

Lennie Hicks, Coordinator of Basic Training, said the adjustment was made and approved by Academy Director W. J. "Rick" Johnson after a careful review of physical requirements was undertaken. Hicks said the changes involve the provision of a "points accumulation system" for officers. Prior to the new standards, each officer attending basic training was required to pass each of the five physical tests.

"It basically was either pass all or nothing," Hicks said. "Now, officers

can accumulate points and must attain a score of 12 out of 30 possible points to pass."

Hicks said officers still must be able to do all the physical requirements. However, he said that even if the officer receives no points for one requirement (such as bench press) he could be stronger in another (such as flexibility) and still attain the necessary 12 points.

"This is a much fairer way. It still weeds out those officers who are grossly out of shape. Yet, it allows for a better distribution for those who should be able to pass," Hicks said.

The new point system for basic training officers is:

Bench Press .....	1-6 points
Sit Ups .....	1-6 points
Flexibility .....	1-6 points
1½ Mile Run .....	1-6 points
Body Fat Content .....	1-6 points

Hicks said that officers must attain a total point accumulation of 12 out of the total of 30 points. He said the requirements are based on performance, age, and sex of the officer.

Hicks said the academy's new requirements began in January, 1990, with Basic Class 236. The failure rate has dropped significantly, with the last four classes only losing two officers.



# Langehans travels long route from Germany to Academy

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Peter "Pete" Langehans came to Columbia, the long way--from Europe to the American Northeast and ultimately to the southwestern part of South Carolina.

Langehans has seen his share of police work in all facets and responsibilities since moving to the state fresh out of the U.S. Navy in 1971. His first law enforcement venture was with the Denmark, S.C. Police Department from 1972-1975. Joining the S.C. Highway Patrol in 1975, Langehans served as a trooper until 1986.

In 1986, Langehans joined the S.C. Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services as training director, serving until 1988. In 1988, he began his career with the academy, specializing in accident investigations and cross training in vehicular behavior and Breathalyzer instruction.

Langehans was born in Germany and grew up in Freeport, Long Island, New York. He is married to the former Jan Richardson.



## Criminal Justice Academy brings **THE CHRONICLE** home for publication

This issue of **THE CHRONICLE** was entirely composed and printed "in-house" at the Academy.

For the past several years the publication was handled commercially. Now that the academy has increased its capabilities in both the print shop and graphic areas, **THE CHRONICLE** will be published entirely "in-house."

While this issue is somewhat abbreviated, compared to past copies, it will grow as the staff becomes more experienced.

The transition has accounted for the absence of issues in recent months.

As always the staff appreciates criticisms and suggestions. Be patient with this first issue, until all the wrinkles can be ironed out.

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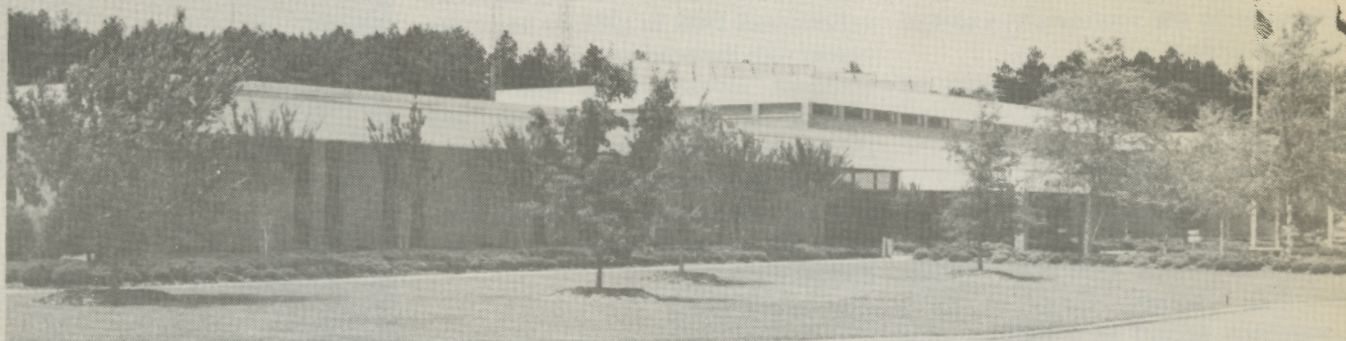
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